



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **MAEDA, Tatsuya**

Group Art Unit: **2877**

Serial No.: **09/963,575**

Examiner: **Vincent P. Barth**

Filed: **September 27, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **9690**

For. **INSPECTION METHOD AND INSPECTION OF A TERMINAL METAL FITTING**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 15, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of the document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits following the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-identified application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The item referenced herewith is not necessarily admitted to be prior art as to the present application. Applicant reserves the right to challenge its availability as a reference.

U.S. Serial No.: 10/083,605

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



Darren R. Crew
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 37,806

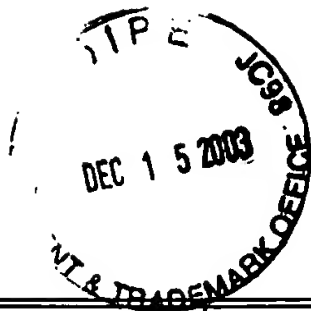
DRC/llf
Atty. Docket No. **011296**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449 and reference (1);



U.S. Serial No.: 10/083,605

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 011296	Serial No. 09/963,575
	Applicant(s): MAEDA, Tatsuya	
	Filing Date: September 27, 2001	Group Art Unit: 2877

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF 10-154568	06/09/1998	Japan	Abstract
_____	AG			
_____	AH			
_____	AI			
_____	AJ			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	
_____	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered